

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code sections 455A.5(6), 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48(1), 483A.8, 483A.8B, 483A.8C, 483A.24, and 483A.24B, the Natural Resource Commission hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 106, “Deer Hunting by Residents,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Chapter 106 sets regulations for deer hunting by residents and includes season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, areas open to hunting, licensing procedures, means and methods of take, and transportation and reporting requirements.

The proposed amendments:

1. Keep the antlerless-deer-only license quotas the same for 2015. The regulation changes enacted for the 2014 season appear to have stabilized deer numbers at the levels agreed to in 2009 by the Deer Study Advisory Group (DSAG). The DSAG was created to review, analyze, and make recommendations on issues relating to the state’s deer population;

2. Amend the requirement for the type of broadhead for use with crossbows during the late muzzleloader season to be the same as that required for archery equipment during the regular bow season; and

3. Clarify which professionals are considered attending physicians for purposes of signing the affidavit needed to obtain a disabled hunter license. The amendment clarifies that a medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner may certify the form.

Any interested person may make written suggestions or comments on the proposed amendments on or before June 30, 2015. Written comments may be directed to Dale Garner, Wildlife Bureau Chief, Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, 502 E. 9th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034; by e-mail at wildlife@dnr.iowa.gov; or by fax at (515)725-8202. Persons who wish to convey their comments orally may contact the Department’s Wildlife Bureau at (515)725-8200 or by visiting the fourth floor of the Wallace State Office Building during regular business hours.

There will be a public hearing on June 30, 2015, at 2 p.m. in the third floor conference room of the Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. At the public hearing, persons may present their views either orally or in writing. Participants will be asked to give their names and addresses for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of the amendments.

Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Department and request specific accommodations.

The proposed amendments will have a neutral impact on jobs in the state. The following types of jobs are positively impacted by deer hunting generally and should see no noticeable change due to this rule making: hunting equipment retailers (weapons, ammunition, clothing, chairs, stands, binoculars, and other supporting equipment); field guides and outfitters; taxidermists; and restaurants, hotels, and gas stations for hunters traveling around the state.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48(1), 483A.8, 483A.8B, 483A.8C, 483A.24 and 483A.24B.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend subrule 106.6(6) as follows:

106.6(6) Antlerless-deer-only licenses. Paid antlerless-deer-only licenses will be available by county for the ~~2014~~ 2015 deer season as follows:

County	Quota	County	Quota	County	Quota
Adair	1025	Floyd	0	Monona	850
Adams	1450	Franklin	0	Monroe	1950
Allamakee	2975	Fremont	525	Montgomery	750
Appanoose	2200	Greene	0	Muscatine	775
Audubon	0	Grundy	0	O'Brien	0
Benton	325	Guthrie	1950	Osceola	0
Black Hawk	0	Hamilton	0	Page	750
Boone	450	Hancock	0	Palo Alto	0
Bremer	650	Hardin	0	Plymouth	0
Buchanan	200	Harrison	850	Pocahontas	0
Buena Vista	0	Henry	925	Polk	1350
Butler	0	Howard	200	Pottawattamie	850
Calhoun	0	Humboldt	0	Poweshiek	300
Carroll	0	Ida	0	Ringgold	2200
Cass	400	Iowa	450	Sac	0
Cedar	775	Jackson	675	Scott	200
Cerro Gordo	0	Jasper	775	Shelby	225
Cherokee	0	Jefferson	1650	Sioux	0
Chickasaw	375	Johnson	850	Story	150
Clarke	2100	Jones	525	Tama	200
Clay	0	Keokuk	450	Taylor	2200
Clayton	2775	Kossuth	0	Union	1500
Clinton	400	Lee	1275	Van Buren	3800
Crawford	150	Linn	850	Wapello	1825
Dallas	1875	Louisa	775	Warren	2200
Davis	2800	Lucas	2200	Washington	750
Decatur	2200	Lyon	0	Wayne	2200
Delaware	525	Madison	2100	Webster	0
Des Moines	800	Mahaska	475	Winnebago	0
Dickinson	0	Marion	1650	Winneshiek	1975
Dubuque	725	Marshall	150	Woodbury	850
Emmet	0	Mills	750	Worth	0
Fayette	1500	Mitchell	0	Wright	0

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 106.7(3) as follows:

106.7(3) Muzzleloader seasons. Only muzzleloading rifles and muzzleloading pistols will be permitted for taking deer during the early muzzleloader season. During the late muzzleloader season, deer may be taken with a muzzleloader, centerfire handgun, crossbow or bow as described in 106.7(1). Muzzleloading rifles are defined as flintlock or percussion cap lock muzzleloaded rifles and muskets of not less than .44 and not larger than .775 caliber, shooting single projectiles only. Centerfire handguns must be .357 caliber or larger shooting straight-walled cartridges propelling an expanding-type bullet (no full-metal jacket) and complying with all other requirements provided in Iowa Code section 481A.48. Legal handgun calibers are listed on the department of natural resources list of acceptable handgun calibers for hunting deer in Iowa. Revolvers, pistols and black powder handguns must have a 4-inch minimum barrel length. There can be no shoulder stock or long-barrel modifications to handguns. Muzzleloading handguns must be .44 caliber or larger, shooting single projectiles only.

Crossbow means a weapon consisting of a bow mounted transversely on a stock or frame and designed to fire a bolt, arrow, or quarrel by the release of the bow string, which is controlled by a mechanical trigger and a working safety. Crossbows equipped with pistol grips and designed to be fired with one hand are illegal for taking or attempting to take deer. All projectiles used in conjunction with a crossbow for deer hunting must be equipped with a broadhead ~~with at least three blades~~.

ITEM 3. Amend paragraph **106.10(1)“b”** as follows:

b. Severely disabled hunt. Any severely disabled Iowa resident meeting the requirements of Iowa Code section 321L.1(8) may be issued one general deer license to hunt deer during the youth season. A person applying for this license must either possess a disability parking permit or provide a completed form from the department of natural resources. The form must be signed by a physician verifying that the person's disability meets the criteria defined in Iowa Code section 321L.1(8). The attending physician shall be currently practicing medicine and shall be a medical doctor, a doctor of osteopathy, a physician assistant, or a nurse practitioner. Forms are available online at www.iowadnr.gov, by visiting the DNR office at the Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa, or any district office, or by calling (515)281-5918 725-8200. A person between 16 and 65 years of age must also possess a regular hunting license and have paid the habitat fee to obtain a license (if normally required to have a hunting license and to pay the habitat fee to hunt). A severely disabled person obtaining this license may obtain any other paid and free general deer and antlerless-deer-only licenses that are available to other hunters. Antlerless-deer-only licenses must be obtained in the same manner by which other hunters obtain them, as described in 106.6(2).